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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6225

September 19, 1994

Mr. Nicholas Ricciuti  
Consular Section  
U.S. Embassy  
Buenos Aires  
ARGENTINA

Dear Mr. Ricciuti:

Mr. Dan Belgaard (Argentina desk in Washington) advised me to contact you for assistance with my inquiry regarding the July 18th, 1994 bombing in Buenos Aires of the Argentine-Israeli Mutual Association. In response to a request from Senator Sarbanes, I am searching for answers to the following questions regarding this bombing:

1. Have the bodies of all victims been identified?
2. Have all the identified bodies been returned to relatives?
3. How many autopsies were performed?
4. Will any more autopsies be performed?
5. Is there anything that USG representatives can do to prevent further autopsies?
6. What were/are the reasons for these autopsies?
7. How did Argentine authorities reconcile the fact that a criminal investigation interferes with a stricture in Orthodox Judaism requiring that bodies be buried within 24 hours?
8. What efforts were made by representatives of the United States government (USG) to reconcile the conflicting demands of Orthodox Judaism and a criminal investigation under Argentine law? What were the results of any interventions made by USG representatives?
9. If autopsies were "successfully" completed on a few bodies, why did authorities continue to perform further autopsies?
10. Who made decisions regarding actions referred to in the above questions #3-9?

I thank you in advance for your prompt attention to these questions. If I can assist in any manner, please contact me at the following phone number: (202) 224-1177.

Sincerely,

*Kimberly Jessup*  
Kimberly Jessup  
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
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